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FIRST NAMED APPLICANT ATTORNEY DOCKET NUMBER FILING/RECEIPT DATE APPLICATION NUMBER Rickey D. Hart

09/875,588

06/06/2001

INNO-15 CON 3

CONFIRMATION NO. 8895

FORMALITIES LETTER *OC00000006205289*

Date Mathed

Mark J. Pandiscio Pandiscio & Pandiscio 470 Totten Pond Road Waltham, MA 02154

NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION

FILED UNDER 37 CFR 1.53(b)

Filing Date Granted

An application number and filing date have been accorded to this application. The item(s) indicated below, however, are missing. Applicant is given TWO MONTHS from the date of this Notice within which to file all required items and pay any fees required below to avoid abandonment. Extensions of time may be obtained by filing a petition accompanied by the extension fee under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a).

- The statutory basic filing fee is missing. Applicant must submit \$ 355 to complete the basic filing fee and/or file a small entity statement claiming such status (37 CFR 1.27).
- Total additional claim fee(s) for this application is \$642.
 - \$162 for 18 total claims over 20.
 - \$480 for 12 independent claims over 3.
- To avoid abandonment, a late filing fee or oath or declaration surcharge as set forth in 37 CFR 1.16(e) of \$65 for a small entity in compliance with 37 CFR 1.27, must be submitted with the missing items identified in this letter.
- The balance due by applicant is \$ 1062.

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A copy of this notice MUST be returned with the reply.

Customer Service Center

Initial Patent Examination Division (703) 308-1202

PART 2 - COPY TO BE RETURNED WITH RESPONSE

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PATENT

MAR 2 6 2002

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Th re Application of:

Rickey D. Hart et al.

Serial No.:

09/875,588

Filing Date:

06/06/2001

Title:

SURGICAL FASTENING SYSTEM AND METHOD

FOR USING THE SAME

Group Art Unit:

3731

Examiner:

Unknown

Attorney's Docket No.:

INNO-15 CON 3

POSTAGE PREPAID, IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, ON:

MARCH 14. 2002

CP1 14, 200

HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED

WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS FIRST CLASS MAIL.

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

JAMES A. SHERIANN

(NAME OF ATTORNEY)

James a. Sheridan 3/14/6

(SIGNATURE)

MARCH 14, 2002

(DATE OF SIGNATURE)

RESPONSE TO OUTSTANDING NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION - FILING DATE GRANTED

In response to the outstanding NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF NONPROVISIONAL APPLICATION - FILING DATE GRANTED, Applicant hereby respectfully submits the following:

- (1) one (1) check in the amount of \$740.00 to cover the statutory basic filing fee;
- (2) a PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT canceling claims 1-23 and 27-38;

(3) a duplicate copy of the NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION - FILING DATE GRANTED, as requested in the Notice; and

(4) one (1) check in the amount of \$130.00 to cover the surcharge for the late filing of the Declaration, this charge having been calculated on the basis of Large Entity states.

In the event that any additional fees may be required to be paid in connection with this submission, please charge the same, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 16-0221.

A duplicate copy of this RESPONSE TO OUTSTANDING NOTICE TO FILE MISSING PARTS OF APPLICATION - FILING DATE GRANTED is enclosed for the convenience of the Patent and Trademark Office.

Respectfully submitted,

James a. Shiridan 3/14/02

James A. Sheridan

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